

LONDONDERRY LEACH LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Minutes of December 2, 2015

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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Betsy McKinney. The following board members were in attendance: Pauline Caron, Robert Collins, Carol Introne, John Curran, and Cynthia Peterson. Also in attendance: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Library Director; Sally Nelson, Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services; Kathy Mague, Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services; and Joe Green, Town Council Liaison.

Public Comment:

Mr. Gene Shannon addressed the Board with concerns he had of notices being posted on the library bulletin board and also the availability of the meeting room for groups to use. He further asked why the library closes at 2:00 p.m. on Fridays and asked the Board to reconsider the hours. Pauline Caron responded that the cut to Friday hours was a result of budget cuts. Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp added that budget cuts over a period of years resulted in a gradual loss of staff positions that made it necessary to reduce library hours. Extensive research went into which day would have least impact on library patrons, and as a result Friday hours were reduced. Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp next addressed Mr. Shannon's question regarding the bulletin board. The library accepts posters from non-profit groups and tries to accommodate all of them. If the library has a contact name and phone number a library employee can call if an issue arises. With regard to the meeting room, Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp explained that it is available during library hours for non-profit groups since there is not sufficient staff to cover after the library is closed. Mr. Shannon was given a copy of the Meeting Room Policy. Mr. Shannon informed the Board that he is donating a subscription of "The New American" magazine to the library.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's Report for November 4, 2015 was distributed prior to the meeting. No changes were made. A **motion** was made by Pauline Caron to accept the minutes as written. The **motion was seconded** by Cynthia Peterson. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Friend's Report:

The Friends met on November 14, 2015, to get everything ready for the holiday sales fund raiser. There is fudge, snowman soup, bird seed, dog treats, and felt poinsettias for sale. There is no Friends meeting in December. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. in the library meeting room.

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Director's Report:

Gifts Donated to the Leach Library –

- Mr. William Burpeau donated a copy of his book “Drive Away”.
- Ms. Melissa Haas has donated subscriptions to “International Jerusalem Post”, “Jerusalem Post Christian Edition” and “Jerusalem Report” to the library.
- Mr. Gene Shannon donated a subscription to “The New American” to the library.

A **motion** was made by Robert Collins to accept the gifts. The **motion was seconded** by John Curran. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

Programs –

- On Thursday, November 12, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., the library held a program dedicated to Isabella Stewart Gardner, who was brought vividly to life by character reenactor Jessa Piaia. 67 participants attended the program.
- On Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will host Mr. Will Broussard, Outreach Coordinator for the Mount Washington Observatory. He will discuss the unique weather at the summit of the mountain and shed light on the weather observers who man the observatory year-round. He will also explore how the mountain's weather works and what it can tell us about our own unique New England weather patterns.
- On Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will present “Painting the Sky: the Northern Lights featuring Dr. Alexa Halford. She will discuss the lore of the aurora, how it has been scientifically studied, and what we are still learning about these mysterious lights. Also included in this presentation are recent images of the Northern Lights taken by Dr. Halford herself.
- On March 24, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will offer “A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes” with author and historian Ms. Adair Mulligan. Ms. Mulligan will explore the rich story to be discovered in what remains of long-forgotten structures in New Hampshire. Witness how one town has helped stimulate interest in its future through the past by creating an inventory of its cellar holes and piecing together the clues in the landscape.
- On April 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will have the program “Four Centuries of Fishing in New Hampshire”. Join us as historian and author Mr. Noon discusses the history of fishing in New Hampshire, and learn about the different ways people once fished, the fish originally local to the area, and the current fishing regulations and their effect on the fish population today.
- On May 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will host “Songs of World War II” with Mr. Richard Kruppa. Mr. Kruppa brings to light fascinating and unfamiliar stories about some of our most beloved American songs from 1939 – 1945. He sings these fascinating songs and shares the largely unknown stories behind them while playing on guitar, five-string banjo, or baritone ukulele.
- On June 16, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., the library will feature “Arthurian Revival in New England”. How did the legend of King Arthur take root in America and how did we make it our own? Join independent scholar Dr. Goodwin for an illustrated presentation as she explores two New England interpretations of King Arthur: “A Connecticut Yankee in

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King Arthur's Court" and the Edwin Austin Abbey mural series depicting the quest for the Holy Grail.

Announcements -

- On Wednesday, September 9, 2015, the electrician resolved some lighting issues. We were still waiting for a part to replace a malfunctioning light socket. This was repaired November 9, 2015.
- The Town is giving the library an AED. The AED cabinet and sign were installed and the unit has been delivered.
- On Monday, November 16, 2015, the library's gutters were cleaned.
- On Monday, November 16, 2015, the library's boiler had a tune-up and an ignitor part replaced.
- On Wednesday, December 2, 2015, the library's fire extinguishers were tested and they passed inspection

Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services Report:

- There were 1117 participants took part in 14 Children's Room programs and activities during the month of November.
- The *Harvest Book Bingo* was attended by 70 participants, and *Magic by Scott Jameson* was attended by 90 participants.
- On Monday, December 7 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. come to the children's room to curl up with stories about animals that sleep through the cold winter months. This entertaining program is open to 90 participants of all ages. Advance registration is required and began on Monday, November 30 at 9:00 a.m. To register, call 603-432-1127 or come into the children's room.
- On Monday, December 14 from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. come to the children's room for a visit with Paddington Bear, star of books and screen! There will be plenty of time for a hug and pictures with Paddington at the end of the program. This fun-filled program is open to 90 participants of all ages. Advance registration is required and begins on Monday, December 7 at 9:00 a.m. To register, call 603-432-1127 or come into the children's room.
- The children's room will be offering the following programs as part of Winter Session 1: Craft Time, Shake, Move and Read, and Toddler Time. These programs run from December 9 to December 17, and January 6 to January 14, with a break in the middle for the holidays. Advance registration is required and began on Monday, November 30 at 9:00 a.m. To register, call 603-432-1127 or come into the children's room.
- Come to the library on Tuesday, December 15 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for our Young Adult Fun Book Bingo event. All participants in grades 6 through 12 will win books from our special selection tables. In addition at this special event, snacks and drinks will be served and there will be a raffle for fun door prizes. No sign up is necessary.

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Assistant Director and Head of Reference Services Report:

- We had 109 logins on our Ebscohost database in November. Our patrons received 543 documents in their searching.
- The Nobel Prizes, founded by Alfred Nobel are presented in December. We have on display this month, books, CD books, and DVDs on the history of the Nobel Prizes, biographies, and works by the honorees of past years. A few of these titles include Brilliant!: Shuji Nakamura and the Revolution in Lighting Technology, Dorothy Hodgkin: A Life, Champions for Peace: Women Winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, and Nobel: the Grand History of the Peace Prize.

Old Business:

- Proposed FY16-17 Budget

Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp informed the Board that the Budget presentation went well. She thanked Joe Green for his insightful questions.

- ILS

Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp informed the Board that on Monday, December 7, 2015, the library computer system will be down. Reports will first be run in Spectrum and then the migration of data into Destiny will begin. On completion of this, reports will be run in both Spectrum and Destiny to check that data has migrated successfully. If all goes well, Spectrum will be brought back up and the library will continue as usual. Destiny will be used at this time for staff training. Chair Betsy McKinney suggested that signs be posted alerting patrons that the system will be down.

- Staff holiday lunches

Melissa Coffey has volunteered to pick up everything for the staff party.

New Business:

- 2016 Board Meeting Schedule

Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp presented the Board schedule for 2016. The Board agreed that this can be posted although there may be future revisions.

A **motion** was made at 7:50 p.m. by Pauline Caron to adjourn the meeting. The **motion was seconded** by Carol Introne. All in attendance accepted the motion, **motion carried**.

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Notes by: Barbara Ostertag-Holtkamp, Sally Nelson, Kathy Mague

Minutes Typed by: Sally Nelson

Date: December 2, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Nelson
Assistant Director and Head of Circulation Services